



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

In the stage succeeding this, as the narcosis deepens, which he terms the paradoxical stage, it was found that while *strong* stimuli produced only a mere beginning of muscular contraction, *weak* stimuli produced tetanic contraction and that conductivity persists longest for weak stimuli. It was also found that in the paradoxical stage a stimulus applied to the normal nerve tract above the narcotized tract exerted an inhibiting influence upon the latter, *e. g.*, if stimulation of the narcotized tract still produces some response in the muscle, this vanishes or is greatly decreased if a point in the normal nerve tract above is stimulated at the same time. A long series of experiments with induction currents of varying strength was carried out for the purpose of investigating this inhibitory influence of connected nerve tracts and likewise on the effects of different chemical and thermal agents applied to the nerve, from which he concludes that states of the nerve completely analogous to narcosis can be produced by ordinary means of excitation—and that irritability, inhibition, and narcosis are so closely related that the same stimuli under different conditions may produce either of these states. As a term to cover all states of the nerve in which irritability is more or less deadened, whether by narcotics or other means, he coins the word Parabiose, which state he concludes is most closely related if not identical with inhibition. This work of Prof. Wedensky's is the most complete and extensive contribution which has yet been made on the subject of inhibition, and his conclusions are far reaching and important for psychology, inasmuch as the problem of inhibition is closely bound up with those theories of will and attention that have a physiological basis.

Clark University,

THEODATE L. SMITH.

*La Contagion Mentale*, par A. VIGOUROUX et P. P. JUQUELIER. Bibliothèque Internationale de Psychologie Experimentale. Octave Doin, Paris, 1905. pp. 258.

This is a summary discussion of such topics as imitation, suggestion, and other mechanism, the contagion of movements, acts, and affective states, especially the primitive emotions of pain and pleasure and of the highest feelings. Then the contagion of ideas, and the conditions, voluntary and involuntary, under which all these processes occur, conclude the first part. In the second part the contagion of morbid movements, the perversion of nutritive instincts in the form of drugs, morbid fears and phobias, anger, tender emotion, anomalies of personal sentiment, megalomania, suicide, sexual perversions, religious expressions, æsthetic and intellectual sentiments, are discussed. Many personal observations from the author's own experience are introduced into this work.

*L'Arrération Mentale*. Contribution à l'étude de la pathologie infantile. Par DR. AUG. LÉY. J. Lebègue & Cie., Bruxelles, 1904. pp. 263.

The author had unusual opportunities for years for studying backward children and youth at Antwerp and has sought to group the ensemble of symptoms in children slightly retarded in their development. After very briefly discussing causes, especially the biological and social factors, he turns to symptomatology, which occupies most of the book. These are subdivided as somatic and psycho-nervous. Under the former head he treats of all asymmetries which anthropometry can detect. Here, too, he places blood defects and anomalies of temperature. The other group of somatic symptoms which he calls pathological injuries are adenoids, tuberculosis, rickets, syphilis, etc. Under the second general division he takes up especial senses and then passes to the central motor organs under which he discusses not